

Express Mail: EV 630723145 US
U.S. National Phase of PCT/US2004/027896
Attorney Docket: I-2003.009 US
Preliminary Amendment

Amendments to the Claims:

1. **(Currently amended):** [[Live]] A live, attenuated bacterium of the genus *Escherichia*, *Yersinia* or *Salmonella*, said bacterium not having a functional tRNA₅^{leu}, ~~for use in a vaccine~~.
2. **(Currently amended):** [[Live]] The live, attenuated bacterium ~~for use~~ according to claim 1, said bacterium not having a functional tRNA₅^{leu} as a result of a mutation in the *leu*x gene.
3. **(Currently amended):** [[Live]] The live, attenuated bacterium ~~for use~~ according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein said bacterium is selected from the group consisting of *E. coli*, *S. enterica* serotype *typhimurium*, *enteritidis*, *choleraesuis*, *dublin*, *typhi*, *gallinarum*, *abortusovii*, *abortus-equi* [[or]] and pullorum.
4. **(Currently amended):** [[Live]] The live, attenuated bacterium ~~for use~~ according to claim 2 ~~1-3, characterised in that, wherein~~ the mutation comprises an insertion and/or a deletion.
5. **(Currently amended):** [[Live]] The live, attenuated bacterium ~~for use~~ according to ~~claims~~ 1-4, ~~characterised in that~~ claim 1, wherein said bacterium carries a heterologous gene.
6. **(Currently amended):** [[Live]] The live, attenuated bacterium ~~for use~~ according to claim 5 ~~characterised in that the, wherein the~~ heterologous gene is inserted in the *leu*x gene.
7. **(Currently amended):** ~~Live attenuated A~~ vaccine for the protection of animals and humans against infection with a pathogenic bacterium or the pathogenic effects thereof, ~~characterised in that said vaccine comprises a comprising the~~ bacterium as defined in claims 1-6 of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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8. (Currently amended): ~~Live attenuated~~ The vaccine according to claim 7, ~~characterised in that it comprises~~ comprising an adjuvant.

9. (Currently amended): ~~Live attenuated~~ The vaccine according to claim 7 ~~or 8,~~ ~~characterised in that it is~~ in a freeze-dried form.

Claims 10-11 (Canceled).

12. (New): A method for protecting a susceptible human or animal from infection with a pathogenic bacterium, comprising administering an effective amount of vaccine according to claim 7.